

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SP-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 SWF-02

EUR-25 DRC-01 NEA-14 OIC-04 /168 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3751

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECAFE

SUBJECT: RED:ECAFE:ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANET REPRESENTATIVES, FIRST SESSION, MAY 29, 1974

REF: STATE 111346

1. SUMMARY: AT FIRST SESSION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES(ACPR) AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON COMMITTEE'S ORGANIZATION AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS. PROVISIONAL AGENDA ACCEPTED AFTER MINOR REVISION AND ECAFE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS APPROVED WITH MODIFICATIONS SATISFACTORY TO U.S. PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON TERMS OF REFERENCE EXPRESSED BY SRI LANKA, USSR, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA, NEXT MEETING ON JUNE 25. AND 26 WILL BE DEVOTED MAINLY TO WORLD FERTILIZER FUND. END SUMMARY.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES: ACPR AGREED THAT CHAIRMANSHIP/ HENCEFORTH WILL ROTATE ALPHABETICALLY FOR EACH ACPR MEETING, AND ONE VICE CHAIRMAN WILL ALWAYS SERVE AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING AS CHAIRMAN. REPRESENTATIVES FROM INDONESIA AND IRAN WERE ELECTED CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN RESPECTIVELY FOR FIRST SESSION SECRETARIAT WILL PREPARE BRIEF RECORD OF MEETING NOTING ITEMS APPROVED WHICH CHAIRMAN WILL CLEAR FOR ACPR. ONLY MORNING SESSIONS WILL BE HELD WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT SEVERAL UNCLASSIFIED

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DAYS OF MEETINGS MAY BE REQUIRED. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (EXSEC)

PROPOSAL THAT ACPR PLAN TO MEET MONTHLY WAS ACCEPTED. EXSEC NORMALLY CALLS MEETINGS, BUT ANY PERMREP CAN REQUEST ONE AT ANY TIME. NEXT ACPR MEETING WILL BE JUNE 25. AND 26. TO DISCUSS WORLD FERTILIZER FUND AND SUCH OTHER AGENDA ITEMS AS TIME WILL ALLOW, MAINLY TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEE AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES, WORK PROGRAMS WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED UNTIL JULY AT EARLIEST, BECAUSE SECRETARIAT IS STILL UNPREPARED. (WHETHER A NEW FORMAT FOR WORK PROGRAMS WILL BE PRESENTED THEN IS STILL UNCLEAR)

AUSTRALIA AND USSR ARGUED UNCONCLUSIVELY OVER WHETHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES SHOULD BE DISCUSSED PRIOR TO WORK PROGRAMS. USSR OPPOSED A DIRECT LINKAGE BETWEEN THE TWO. AGENDA TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED WILL BE DETERMINED AT SUBSEQUENT ACPR MEETINGS.

3. PROVISIONAL AGENDA: ACPR ACCEPTED NEW ZEALAND'S PROPOSED REVISION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS: "PROGRAM OF WORK FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR 1974/75. YEAR" WAS INCLUDED AS AN ITEM AND A SEPARATE BROAD AGENDA ITEM WAS CREATED TO INCLUDE "MATTERS REFERRED TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY 30TH SESSION".

4. WORLD FERTILIZER FUND: USSR QUESTIONED WHETHER RESOLUTION 142 EVER REFERRED WORK FERTILIZER FUND (WFF) TO ACPR BUT EXSEC MARAMIS INSISTED THAT RESOLUTION REQUIRED HIM TO CONFER WITH ACPR. REPORT OF HIS EXPERT GROUP IS UNDER PREPARATION AND WILL BE DISTRIBUTED SHORTLY. MARAMIS WANTS ACPR TO DEVOTE ITS JUNE MEETING TO WFF. WHEN FRANCE THEN RECOMMENDED THAT ECAFE SHOULD AWAIT OUTCOME OF UNCTAD AND FAO STUDY OF WFF, MARAMIS ARGUED THAT WFF IS AN ECAFE PRODUCT AND HE WANTS TO PRESENT HIS VIEWS TO THE SPECIAL SESSION OF FAO ON JULY 15-17 WHICH HAS BEEN CONVENED BY THE SPECIAL SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO STUDY FERTILIZER PROBLEMS.

5. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS: (OES/ACPR/4) WAS APPROVED WITH FOLLOWING CHANGES: NEW ZEALAND ASKED TO TRANSFER TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING FROM JANUARY TO MID-DECEMBER AND SECRETARIAT PROMISED TO COMPLY. AT JAPANESE REQUEST SECRETARIAT ALSO AGREED TO TRY HOLD MEETING ON ASIAN CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY IN OCTOBER. WE NOTED SPECIAL REGIONAL MEETING PREPARATORY TO SECOND GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNIDO SCHEDULED

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FOR OCTOBER AND ASKED WHETHER THIS WAS AN EXCLUSIVE MEETING WHICH COULD STILL GIVE US PROBLEMS. SECRETARIAT REPLIED UNCONCLUSIVELY AND CONFUSINGLY BY REFERRING FIRST TO A SPECIAL AD HOC EXPERT'S MEETING IN SEPTEMBER AND THEN ADMITTING THAT HE CONSIDERED MEETING TO BE NON-LEGISLATIVE. FRANCE THEN ARGUED THAT MEETING SHOULD BE LEGISLATIVE BECAUSE IT REPLACED SCHEDULED MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, TECHNOLOGY AND HOUSING AND ALSO BECAUSE

LEGISLATIVE BODY IS NEEDED TO DETERMINE CONTINUANCE OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES BY 31ST SESSION. NEW ZEALAND ARGUED THAT MEETING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED NON-LEGISLATIVE TO PLACATE "SENSITIVITIES" OF SOME MEMBERS. MALAYSIA DECLARED THAT MEETING SHOULD BE MINISTERIAL AFTER FURTHER INTERVENTIONS BY UK AND SRI LANKA, AGREEMENT FINALLY REACHED THAT MEETING BE CALLED A SPECIAL PREPARATORY MEETING FOR ALL ECAFE MEMBERS AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 255 OF ECAFE LAST ANNUAL REPORT (E/CN.11/1153) ALL AGREED TO ELIMINATE WORD "REGIONAL" FROM TITLE. MEETING DESCRIBED IN PARA 256 TO BE HELD "OUTSIDE OF ECAFE" IS NOT AND WILL NOT BE LISTED IN ECAFE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCES (TRS) OF MAIN COMMITTEES AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES: ONLY SRI LANKA, USSR, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA PRESENTED PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON TRS. SRI LANKA AND JAPAN INSISTED THAT TRS SHOULD AVOID DUPLICATION WHILE USSR AND AUSTRALIA ARGUED THAT NEW TRS SHOULD FOLLOW TRS OF PREVIOUS CONFERENCES AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE. USSR SPECIFICALLY OBJECTED TO NEW TRS TO NEW TRS FOR COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC PLANNING. JAPAN ALSO ASKED THAT NEW TRS FOR INDUSTRY, TECHNOLOGY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE BE LESS SPECIFIC. USSR ASKED FOR OLD TRS ON CONFERENCE ON WATER RESOURCES. SRI LANKA URGED THAT NEW TRS FOR COMMITTEE ON TRADE SHOULD TRANSFER ITS ATTENTION FROM INTERNATIONAL TO REGIONAL ASPECTS OF TRADE WITH MORE EMPHASIS ON INDUSTRY GIVE MORE ATTENTION TO AGROBASED INDUSTRIES AND RURAL HOUSING. SRI LANKA ASSERTED THAT TRS FOR SUBSIDIARY BODIES SHOULD BE SCRUTINIZED AND ONLY THOSE BODIES RETAINED WHICH RELATE TO NEW AREAS OF PRIORITY.

7. COMMENT: FIRST ACPR MEETING GOT OFF TO A GOOD START. IT WAS ABRISK, SERIOUS MEETING IN WHICH EXSEC MARAMIS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED AND PERMREPS REACHED AGREEMENT QUICKLY ON UNCLASSIFIED

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NUMEROUS ISSUES. ACPR SHOULD BECOME A MUTUALLY USEFUL VEHICLE FOR BOTH MARAMIS AND PERMREPS. WE WILL TRANSMIT SOONEST EXPERT GROUP'S REPORT ON WORLD FERTILIZER FUND TO PREPARE U.S. POSITION FOR NEXT ACPR MEETING JUNE 25. AND 26. WASHINGTON VIEWS ON TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MAIN COMMITTEES AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL FOR THIS NEXT MEETING. MASTERS

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